

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Specification

The specification has been amended to place such in better form. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

Claims Status

Claims 1 through 21 remain pending in the application. Claims 11, 14, 16, 18, and 20 have been amended to even more succinctly define the invention and/or to improve their form. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added. Claim 1 is the only independent claim pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is acknowledged with appreciation that Claims 1 through 15 are allowed.

It is also acknowledged with appreciation that Claims 16 through 21 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection and if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. The claims remain in their dependent form, inasmuch as it is believed that Claim 1 from which they depend will be found to be allowable.

Claim Objection

Claim 18 is objected to because of the informalities noted by the Examiner. In response, Claim 18 has been amended to insert a comma as suggested by the Examiner. However, Claim 18, line 7 has not been amended to change "the image receiving member"

to --an image receiving member-- as suggested by the Examiner. There is a recitation of “an image receiving member” in Claim 1 from which Claim 18 directly and indirectly depends. Accordingly, there is proper antecedent basis for the recitation in Claim 18 and it is not necessary to amend Claim 18 in this regard as suggested by the Examiner. (See Claim 1, line 8 as shown herein.)

It is respectfully submitted that the objection to Claim 18 has been overcome.

Section 112 Rejection

Claims 16, 17, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

The rejections are based on the inclusion of recitation “said image receiving member” in Claims 16 and 20. As previously noted, Claim 1 includes the recitation “an image receiving member”. Claims 16 and 20 directly and/or indirectly depend from Claim 1. Accordingly, there is proper antecedent basis for the recitation of “said image receiving member” in Claims 16 and 20. (Claims 17 and 21 were objected to on the same grounds because they depend from Claims 16 and 20, respectively.)

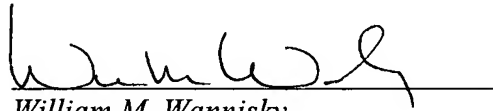
It is respectfully submitted that the objection to Claims 16, 17, 20, and 21 also is not well founded and should be withdrawn.

Closing Comments

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Wannisky', is written over a horizontal line.

William M. Wannisky
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 28,373

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

WMW\tas

DC_MAIN 201341v1